

several pathways to the American Dream and lifelong success.

BIDEN AGENDA AND CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Wisconsin (Ms. MOORE) for 5 minutes.

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Madam Speaker, last week President Joe Biden delivered a strong State of the Union address focused on building a better America.

Our jobs recovery is strong and well underway, as noted by the most recent numbers, which shows unprecedented job growth so far under this President. More than 7.3 million jobs have been created by President Biden's very first year in office, even with the challenges posed by omicron and delta COVID variants. But we have so much more to do in this never-ending process of building a more perfect Union.

One area highlighted by the President was his desire to prioritize mental health needs in our country, particularly among our children. Our country faces an unprecedented mental health crisis in which our youth have been particularly impacted.

A number of mental health organizations have declared a youth mental health crisis and our surgeon general has issued an advisory calling it "an urgent public health crisis."

Today, I rise as we celebrate School Social Work Week, to talk about one way to help address that issue by supporting and investing in school social workers.

First, I just want to take an opportunity to thank our school social workers who work every single day to make a difference in the lives of their students and their families. School social workers are responsible for fostering students' social and emotional well-being so that they are ready to learn. As trained mental health professionals, social workers can deliver a wide spectrum of services, from building social skills to providing mental health support.

Their presence in our schools is invaluable and the support they provide for students is critical. I personally can attest to how school social workers make a difference. I would not be here if not for the support I received from a school social worker when I was a student.

Make no mistake, school social workers are key members of a school's educational team. Their expertise can help guide students through serious life challenges, including poverty, addiction, bullying, children whose parents are incarcerated, and even the military deployment of a family member.

It is more important, now more than ever, to reduce the barriers to mental health services for children, especially in our schools. As we do, improving access to school social workers must be a part of those efforts.

That is why later this week I will introduce, along with my very good

friend and former professional social worker, Representative BARBARA LEE of California, my School Social Workers Improving Student Success Act, as we create a grant to help schools hire additional social workers and retain existing school social workers.

There should be one social worker for every 250 students in most schools. In high-need schools, one social worker for every 50 students. Many schools struggle to meet these ratios.

My bill would also create a National Technical Assistance Center for school social work to help develop strategies for improving the effectiveness of school social work and help disseminate best practices.

Madam Speaker, I want to say thank you to the front-line school social workers for the hard work they put in every day to help our students succeed. It is going to be much more challenging after COVID.

I applaud the President for his commitment to take on mental health, especially among our youth, and to make it part of his unity agenda for the Nation that I believe colleagues on both sides of the aisle should be able to get behind.

I share his dedication to getting all Americans the mental health services they need. I look forward to seeing the proposals included in his fiscal year 2023 budget, including to help increase access to school-based medical health services in which school social workers will play a key role.

I sincerely hope that this House and this Congress can come together to address our children's mental health. Democrats continue to prioritize efforts to make our economy recover. I encourage all Members to consider our youth's mental health.

HONORING NATORRA MOODY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Natorra Moody for receiving the Alma-Bacon Georgia Library Employee of the Year award for 2021.

Natorra has exceptionally high standards for herself, of her coworkers, and of our library system, helping to maintain the highest caliber of public service.

She is dedicated to serving her community by leading programs such as a prom dress donation campaign which helps students who can't afford formal wear by allowing them to borrow the dresses freely from the library.

She regularly participates in community events as well to promote her library and the stellar services it provides.

This past year, Natorra has taken on the role of managing the Appling County Public Library during the renovation period and beyond. Her dedication, hard work, and love originate from a simple volunteer position at her local

library when she was a high school student.

I thank Natorra for all she does to benefit others.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF BILL ROBERTS

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember the life of a dedicated member of our community, as well as a fellow Young Harris alumnus, Bill Roberts of Fayetteville, Georgia.

Bill was the recipient of the Young Harris Medallion, the highest honor that is bestowed by the college for his love and support throughout his years.

Recruited to come to Young Harris as a basketball star, Bill was so much more, serving as a champion debater and officer of both the SPAT clubs and Student Government Association. He earned a bachelor's degree in economics and continued his basketball career at Mercer University, proceeded to Georgia State to earn a business and accounting degree, and finally received a law degree from Woodrow Wilson.

He served our great State of Georgia on the financial side, overseeing massive construction projects like the Georgia Dome and World Congress Center. Bill's expertise was put to use as a trustee of the State's Employees' Retirement System where he served on the Investment Committee and was responsible for investing retirement funds to the humble tune of \$12 billion.

Emeritus trustee for Young Harris, distinguished alumni, veteran, and loved member of our community are just a few of the titles that Bill retained. This is a tremendous loss that will be felt by many.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF PAM SOUTHARD

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service of an incredible Georgian, Pam Southard.

Pam has served as the executive director of the Greater Pooler Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Bureau. She has selflessly put her heart and soul into her position and worked to better the city of Pooler in any way that she can.

As the executive director, Pam was instrumental in creating the shuttle system to and from the annual St. Patrick's Day celebration in Savannah. She also founded the annual Hearts for Heroes Gala Fundraiser to help put Pooler, Georgia, on the map. This upscale, black-tie event has sold out for the past 7 years and has been an incredible event for our community.

Throughout her tenure as executive director, Pam has overseen substantial business growth in the city of Pooler, thanks to her guiding hand. Pam has truly been the embodiment of what it means to be a servant to one's community.

Her retirement will leave big shoes to fill, and we will certainly miss her. We are grateful for all that she has done for our great city and wish her the best as she enters a new stage of her life.

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REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF JON LOTT

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember the life of Jon Lott, a devoted Christian, full of curiosity, and committed to serving everyone he encountered. He attended and graduated from Nicholls School, where he was senior class president and played basketball.

After high school, Jon would follow in his father's footsteps by attending North Georgia University, joining the Corps of Cadets. Military life didn't agree with Jon, and he graduated from Georgia Southern University.

Jon would go on to be the president of Nicholls State Bank as well as serving in leadership roles in several other banks. At the time of his passing, Jon was serving as the executive vice president of FNB South, where he had worked for almost three decades.

He was especially proud of the time he spent with the Coffee Regional Medical board, further helping his neighbors.

Jon was a man who was loved and admired by those who knew him and those whom he helped, which were many. My thoughts and prayers reside with his family, friends, and community as they mourn this tremendous loss of a friend, neighbor, loved one, and servant.

HONORING JOHN "POPS" ARTHUR, SR.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. CÁRDENAS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CÁRDENAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor John Arthur, Sr., a beloved San Fernando Valley leader whom we lost earlier this year. Pops, as many of his students called him, was known by Men's Journal Magazine as the toughest man in America.

Born in Starkville, Mississippi, Pops attended Clark Atlanta University with an athletic scholarship. He met the love of his life, Geraldine, and they had a beautiful daughter, Jonvette. He worked as an underground bare-knuckle fighter with a black belt in various martial arts. He also worked as an undercover FBI agent and had various public safety roles.

After the passing of his wife, Pops moved to southern California with his beautiful daughter. There, he worked as a trainer with fitness personality Billy Blanks and trained various world champion fighters such as James Toney.

However, after a vibrant career training some of the world's most recognizable names, Pops found his true calling when he began coaching at-risk youth for free. He impacted countless families in our community by training their little children about life—not about fighting, but about life.

Pops dedicated his life to helping others and creating champions. A leg-

end himself, Pops was truly a force of good in our community and in our world. For many reasons, I honor the life of the toughest man in America, John "Pops" Arthur.

UNITED STATES REMAINS A BEACON OF HOPE

Mr. CÁRDENAS. Madam Speaker, I am thankful for the opportunity to speak before the House, and it is an honor to be a Member of this prestigious body. With that, I would like to take the opportunity to explain and exclaim how our hearts in America go out to the people of Ukraine as they fear for their lives and they flee this tragedy that is caused by Russia and Vladimir Putin.

It is unfortunate that there are many people around the world right now as we speak who have, unfortunately, had to flee their country, flee their homes, in fear of people like Vladimir Putin and others who create atrocities on them, their communities, and their country.

I want to just remind everybody that the United States of America continues to be the beacon of hope, light, and life for everyone who needs to seek asylum. There are opportunities for us and many, many great countries around the world to embrace these people who are fleeing these unspeakable horrors.

It is very important for us to understand that we are great when our arms are open. We are great when we receive those who are less fortunate. We are great, and our greatness comes from so many of us who come from families who fled their country, who left atrocities so that they can have a new life for them, but more importantly, for the next generation, the next, and the next.

Once again, the United States of America shall always remain the place where people can seek refuge when they are fleeing atrocities like we are witnessing in Ukraine and other parts of the world.

HONORING LANDER UNIVERSITY'S 150TH ANNIVERSARY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. DUNCAN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. DUNCAN. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to honor the 150th anniversary of Lander University, one of the greatest universities in the Third District of South Carolina and the fastest growing public university in our State.

Lander was founded in 1872 in Williamston, South Carolina, as Williamston Female College by the Reverend Samuel Lander, who served as the institution's first president. That is a factoid that I didn't know until I started learning about their 150th anniversary.

The institution later moved to its current campus in Greenwood, South Carolina, in the heart of the Third District back in 1903. Williamston Female College was later renamed Lander Col-

lege in honor of its founder and began admitting men in 1943.

On July 1, 1973, Lander College became a State-supported institution of higher learning after authorization from the South Carolina General Assembly. After another period of growth under the leadership of President Larry Jackson, Lander College changed its name again to Lander University in 1992.

Today, the university celebrates record growth, with more students choosing Lander University to continue their education than at any other time in the university's history. The university's continued growth over the past century-and-a-half and the impact the institution has had on the Third Congressional District and the State of South Carolina is exceptional.

Lander University offers high-demand and market-driven programs in a rich liberal arts environment to produce highly qualified and marketable graduates. The university now offers over 90 in-demand bachelor's and master's programs that produce career-ready graduates who have the technical, interpersonal, and professional skills they need to succeed in the workplace and the world thanks to their liberal arts education from Lander.

Now, Lander is a special place to me personally as I was a Lander University parent. My oldest son is a proud Lander alumnus and currently works for the university.

Go Bearcats, and congratulations on 150 years.

Madam Speaker, I want to mention one other thing.

In 2018, Democrats were hollering about gas prices, hollering just because President Trump was in the White House.

Look at gas prices today. I would love to hear you holler now.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to direct their remarks to the Chair.

HONORING DR. PAUL FARMER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. RUIZ) for 5 minutes.

Mr. RUIZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Dr. PAUL Farmer, a visionary in global health, crusader for health equity, and accomplished physician with an unparalleled passion for social justice.

Dr. Farmer was my mentor, my professor, and my friend. He was completely selfless, and his relentless dedication to those less fortunate inspired me and helped shape me into who I am today.

His story begins in North Adams, Massachusetts, in 1959. He spent his childhood there and later in Tampa, Florida, where he was raised in an old school bus that his father had converted into a mobile home.

Encouraged by his parents, Dr. Farmer developed a strong interest in the